

REMARKS

The present reissue application is believed to be in condition for allowance at the time of the next Office action.

The applicants seek reissue of U.S. Patent No. 6,267,765. Included with the present preliminary amendment is the entire specification, including the claims, furnished in the form of a copy of the printed patent, in double column format, each page on only one side of a single sheet of paper, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.173(a)(1). Applicants also include a clean copy of each drawing sheet of the printed patent at the time of filing of the present reissue application, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.173(a)(2).

The applicants hereby offer to surrender the original patent whose reissue is sought. Applicants further agree to provide either the original patent or a statement that the original is lost or inaccessible, if that is the case, prior to allowance.

The present preliminary amendment adds new claims 14-28 to original, unamended claims 1-13 of the issued patent. In conformance with 37 CFR 1.173(b)(2), the entirety of each of the added claims is presented as underlined text. The present amendment makes no

amendment to either the specification other than the claims or the drawings.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.173(c), the status of the claims is as follows: patent claims 1-13 are pending and unamended, and claims 14-28 are newly added. As further required by 37 CFR 1.173(c), following is an identification of support for claim changes, addressing added claims 14-28:

Claim 14: The claim up to the "wherein" clause is supported by at least claim 1 of the issued patent. The contents of the "wherein" clause find support in patent claim 5.

Claim 15: This claim finds support in patent claim 6.

Claim 16: This claim finds support in patent claims 1 and 2.

Claim 17: This claim finds support in patent claim 3.

Claim 18: This claim finds support in patent claim 4.

Claim 19: This claim finds support in patent claim 9.

Claim 20: This claim finds support in patent claim 5.

Claim 21: This claim finds support in the patent specification column 4, lines 49-63 and Figures 1-6.

Claim 22: This claim finds support in the patent specification column 7, line 58 through column 8, line 50, and Figures 8 and 9.

Claim 23: This claim finds support in the patent specification column 4, lines 49-63 and Figures 1-6.

Claim 24: This claim finds support in the patent specification column 7, line 58 through column 8, line 50, and Figures 8 and 9.

Claim 25: This claim finds support in patent specification column 5, lines 1-7.

Claim 26: This claim finds support in patent specification column 5, lines 31-42.

Claim 27: This claim finds support in patent specification column 5, lines 42-47.

Claim 28: This claim finds support in patent specification column 5, lines 31-47.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly requested.

TAYLOR et al. - Reissue of US 6,267,176
Attorney Docket No. 0573-1004-1

Should there be any matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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EJ:lm
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